

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-09-26 22:37:48
Observer's Name	Michael David
E-mail	michaeldavid@gmail.com
Observer's Address	United States
Species (Common Name)	King Rail
Species (Scientific Name)	Rallus elegans
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult
Observation Date and Time	07-1-2017 7:00 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S37899803
County	Crawford
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Meadville
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Conneaut Marsh, Watson Run Road
GPS coordinates of sighting	41.575524, -80.218493
Habitat	emergent herbaceous wetland
Description	Large rail with long bill, neck, and legs compared to Virginia Rail. Rusty colored overall with paler face, streaked back, and lower belly and flanks barred black and white. Bill, face, and legs duller than Virginia Rail.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Walked across the road between wetland areas.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	From Virginia Rail by larger size, more elongated shape, and duller bill, face, and legs. From much rarer inland Clapper Rail by brighter chest and more contrasting back and flanks. Green Heron superficially similar in size and shape but easily eliminated by plumage pattern.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

This bird was first detected by sound in May and was heard by many observers. I did not manage a photo but the bird was photographed crossing the road on at least 2 other occasions:

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S37795831>

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S37303777>

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